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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 114  
By Davis R

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate David McMahan  
Branam on receiving the Tennessee 1996-1997  
Harris Leadership Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the Tennessee General Assembly honor those individuals  
who through their hard work and unflagging commitment have achieved excellence in their  
academic careers; and

WHEREAS, David McMahan Branam, a senior at Cocke County High School, who  
recently was honored with the prestigious Tennessee 1996-1997 Harris Leadership Award  
given by the National Beta Club, is clearly one such exemplary citizen of our state; and

WHEREAS, the National Beta Club is a youth organization, with more than 6,000  
chapters in schools nationwide, which recognizes and rewards academic achievement,  
leadership, community service, and character; and

WHEREAS, the competition for this honor, named for the founder of the National Beta  
Club, Dr. John W. Harris, is very rigorous as only one award is given per state; and

WHEREAS, David's receipt of this award marks the first time a resident of Cocke County  
has received this special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Cocke County High School Beta Club co-sponsor Duay O'Neil praised  
David by stating: "We based David's nomination on his successful efforts last year to acquire a  
\$10,000 grant for our school through the Vision 2000 program. That money paid for the

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purchase and installation of an Info-Trac system for our students.”; and

WHEREAS, Beta Club co-sponsor Annabelle Rainesis, equally complimentary of David, commented: "In addition to David's work in the many Beta Club projects, such as helping with the Channel 2 PBS telethon, his contributions to other activities in the school, his community, and his church, speak highly of David's outstanding character."; and

WHEREAS, Cocke County High School principal Gary Williams commented: "Any time one of our students earns such positive publicity reflects well, not only on himself, but on our entire school and community..."; and

WHEREAS, David is the son of proud parents Mr. and Mrs. Gene Branam and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Y. J. McMahon, all of Newport. He has one sister, Lisa, who is a freshman at Cocke County High School; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, David plans to attend East Tennessee State University and pursue a career in the medical field. For the last several semesters, he has also attended Walters State Community College where he has completed nearly 20 hours of undergraduate work; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to honor one of Tennessee's best and brightest young citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate David McMahan Branam on his receipt of the Tennessee 1996-97 Harris Leadership Award and wish him well in what we are confident will be a successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.